

Updated Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

The Marine Life Management Act (MLMA, Stats. 1998, ch. 1052) created a broad programmatic framework for managing fisheries through a variety of conservation measures, including Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA, Stats. 1999, ch. 1015) established a programmatic framework for designating such MPAs in the form of a statewide network. AB 2800 (Stats. 2000, ch. 385) enacted the Marine Managed Areas Improvement Act (MMAIA), among other things, to standardize the designation of Marine Managed Areas (MMAs), which include MPAs. The overriding goal of these acts is to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of California's marine resources. Unlike previous laws, which focused on individual species, the acts focus on maintaining the health of marine ecosystems and biodiversity in order to sustain resources.

Existing regulations (the no-project alternative) provide for 42 MPAs covering an area of 181.5 square miles, representing 7.7 percent of the state waters within the south coast region. Of this, 89 percent of the area protected is within no-take state marine reserves covering 161 square miles or 6.9 percent of the state waters within the south coast study region.

The proposed regulation change is intended to meet the goals described in the Marine Life Protection Act within a portion of California's State waters. The area covered in this proposal is the south coast region, defined as State waters from Point Conception in Santa Barbara County to the California-Mexico border. The MLPA goals address an overall concept of ecosystem-based management and the intent to improve upon California's existing array of marine protected areas (MPAs). The MLPA specifically requires that the Department of Fish and Game (Department) prepare a master plan and that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) adopt regulations based on the plan to achieve the MLPA goals.

The MLPA requires that the Commission adopt a Marine Life Protection Program that, in part, contains an improved marine reserve (now state marine reserve) component [Fish and Game Code subsection 2853(c)(1)] and protects the natural diversity of marine life and the structure, function, and integrity of marine ecosystems [Fish and Game Code subsection 2853(b)(1)]. This protection may help provide sustainable resources as well as enhance functioning ecosystems that provide benefits to both consumptive and non-consumptive user groups. The program may include areas with various levels of protection (LOP), through MPAs that allow for specified commercial and recreational activities. These activities include but are not limited to fishing for certain species but not others, fishing with certain practices but not others, and kelp harvesting, provided that these activities are consistent with the objectives of the area and the goals and guidelines of the MLPA.

Regional implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act:

Important in developing the proposed regulation was the consideration for the south coast MPAs to form a component of a statewide biological network. The concept of designing a statewide network is outlined in the Commission's draft master plan for Marine Protected Areas (draft master plan), consistent with the guidance provided in the MLPA [Fish and Game Code subsection 2853(b)(6)]. Rather than attempting to design a single network for the entire state at one time, the draft master plan envisions the assembly of a statewide network from a series of regional processes across four coastal study regions and the San Francisco Bay region. The central and north central coast regional regulations were adopted in April 2007 and August

2009, respectively. Further background on the concept of regional networks, biological connectivity, ecosystem protection, MPA classifications, as well as the legislative history and context, are included in the rulemaking files for the central coast (OAL File ID # 07-0711-01S) and north central coast (OAL File ID #2010-0413-02SR). The south coast is the third of five study regions to be implemented through the MLPA.

The proposed regulation establishes a network component of MPAs for the south coast designed to include all representative south coast habitats and major oceanic conditions. Unique and critical habitats were considered separately to guarantee both representation and protection. From an ecological perspective, the proposed regulation creates a network component of MPAs in the south coast consistent with the goals of the MLPA. From an economic and social perspective, the proposed regulation attempts to minimize potential negative socio-economic impacts and optimize potential positive socio-economic impacts for all users, to the extent possible.

PROPOSED REGULATION:

The proposed regulation, also known as the Commission's Integrated Preferred Alternative (IPA), includes a total of 35 MPAs for the south coast region (Figure 1, Table 1). Sub-options have been included in the proposed regulation that may increase the number of MPAs up to a total of 39. It should be noted that MPAs in the northern Channel Islands and Santa Barbara Island were designed and adopted prior to the implementation of the south coast regional MLPA planning process. These 13 MPAs and two special closures, adopted in 2004, were re-evaluated at the onset of the south coast regional planning process relative to the goals of the MLPA by applying the Science Advisory Team (SAT) guidelines. These MPAs were found to meet the goals of the MLPA, and were incorporated into the south coast regional proposals without modification, at the direction of the Commission. They are reflected in Figure 1, but are not included in Table 1.

Additionally, two federal Safety Zones (military closures enacted by the United States Coast Guard and managed by the United States Navy) off of San Clemente Island were recognized in the MPA proposals as contributing to the ecological goals of the south coast MPA network. These federal Safety Zones were designated in federal regulations concurrent with the south coast MPA planning process. Although these areas are not proposed for formal designation as MPAs, they prohibit public access and act as no-fishing zones. These zones cover approximately 37 square miles and were identified by the MLPA Science Advisory Team to encompass several unique and rare marine life habitats. Due to the significant biological value of these non-fishing areas, the BRTF made a motion to include federal Safety Zones in MPA proposals and to consider their contributions to the ecological goals of the MPA network in the south coast study region without a formal MPA designation. Thus, while the federal Safety Zones, as well as the northern Channel Islands MPAs, are part of the overall design of the MPA network, they are not under consideration for regulatory action. The Department will develop monitoring and management agreements with the Department of Defense pursuant to an MOU subsequent to this rulemaking and will be addressed formally in an update to the draft master plan.

Although changes to the northern Channel Islands MPAs are not under consideration, an error was identified in the existing regulations for the San Miguel Island Special Closure. A typographical error in the original rulemaking resulted in an incorrect longitudinal coordinate for Judith Rock, which is the eastern boundary of the San Miguel Island Special Closure. Thus, in subsection 632(b)(80), Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) of the proposed

regulation, 120° 23.30' W. longitude is corrected to 120° 25.30' W. longitude as intended in the original rulemaking.

The three classifications of MPAs used in California to reflect differing allowed uses are: state marine reserve (SMR), state marine conservation area (SMCA), and state marine park (SMP). Public Resources Code Section 36710 lists the restrictions applied in these classifications. The Commission has the statutory authority to designate SMRs and SMCAs; however the third MPA classification, SMP, may only be created, modified, or deleted under the authority of the State Park and Recreation Commission [Public Resources Code 36725(b)].

One MPA (Kashtayit) was recommended for designation as an SMP by stakeholders and the BRTF, with restrictions consistent with this designation. Pursuant to Commission authority [Public Resources Code 36725(a)], it would be adopted as an SMCA, although it could subsequently be designated as an SMP at the discretion of the State Park and Recreation Commission. If adopted, the draft master plan will be amended to reflect that it is intended to be a park, but will require action by the State Park and Recreation Commission.

Pre-existing activities and artificial structures including but not limited to wastewater outfalls, piers and jetties, maintenance dredging, and beach nourishment occur throughout the heavily urbanized south coast study region. These are activities that may result in incidental take. However, these activities are regulated by other federal, state, and local agencies, whose jurisdiction cannot be pre-empted through designation of MPAs under MLPA. Out of the 35 MPAs in the proposed regulation, 23 have been identified as having various existing activities regulated by other agencies (refer to Table 1). These activities are specified within the proposed MPA regulations to make explicit that these regulated activities are allowed to continue under current permits.

The Commission has previously incorporated descriptions of permitted activities into regulations for specific MPAs. There are examples of how ongoing activities are authorized within existing Title 14, CCR. Most recently, in 2008 the Commission adopted language for the Morro Bay State Marine Recreational Management Area that specifies activities permitted by other entities [subsections 632(b)(69)(C)(4) and 632(b)(69)(C)(5), Title 14, CCR]. In addition, permitted activities are also authorized in Ecological Reserves (Section 630, Title 14, CCR, and repeated for MPAs inside the Ecological Reserves in Section 632, Title 14, CCR). In line with this precedent, the proposed regulation incorporates allowances for specific ongoing activities in 23 MPAs (see Table 1). It should be noted, however, that in cases where a State Marine Reserve (SMR) is proposed over the area of activity, designation as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA) is more appropriate than an SMR due to the incidental take associated with those activities, which conflicts with an SMR designation. Ten of the 23 MPAs with identified activities were proposed as SMRs by stakeholders. Therefore, the designation is changed from SMR to SMCA that only allows take associated with those activities identified. For purposes of this discussion, these are referred to as “no-take SMCAs” and reflected as a different color shown in Figure 1.

The proposed regulation for MPAs within Ecological Reserves adds a reference to activities authorized pursuant to Section 630. Therefore, text that duplicates text in Section 630, Title 14, CCR, is deleted and a cross reference to Section 630 is provided.

Mandated water quality monitoring activities required under the federal Clean Water Act and California Water Code have been identified as occurring throughout the southern California region, and include monitoring stations within the majority of MPAs proposed in this regulation. Monitoring includes sampling of water, sediments, and marine organisms using a variety of methods. The MLPA specifically states that monitoring and research are permissible in all MPA designations. Therefore, under existing regulations, water quality monitoring may be authorized in any MPA pursuant to a scientific collecting permit issued by the Department, and therefore an allowance does not need to be specified within individual MPA regulations. However, to make explicit that the provision for monitoring in MPAs applies to water quality monitoring, the proposed regulation adds a general provision to Section 632(a), Title 14, CCR, to clarify that this activity is authorized in all MPAs pursuant to a scientific collecting permit.

For purposes of the MLPA, wastewater discharge permitted by the state water quality control board is not considered to involve “take” within MPAs. A clarification will be added to the draft master plan that, for purposes of MPA management, the relation of wastewater discharge to allowable take is at the discretion and jurisdiction of the state and regional water quality control boards.

Military activities have been identified in three of the proposed MPAs, at Point Conception SMR, Begg Rock SMR, and South La Jolla SMCA. Existing regulations in the preamble to Section 632, Title 14, CCR, state that “Nothing in this section expressly or implicitly precludes, restricts or requires modification of current or future uses of the waters identified as marine protected areas, special closures, or the lands or waters adjacent to these designated areas by the Department of Defense, its allies or agents.” Therefore, military operations are already exempt within all MPAs under existing law.

The proposed regulation retains the existing San Diego-Scripps Coastal SMCA. This MPA provides for the specified scientific institution to manage and conduct research, education, and scientific collecting activities for its faculty, students, and affiliates without a scientific collecting permit. The proposed regulation adds a requirement that scientific research may only be conducted pursuant to a scientific collecting permit issued by the Department, which is consistent with regulatory requirements at the existing Dana Point SMR and Catalina Island Marine Institute SMR (renamed Blue Caverns SMCA in the proposed regulation).

The IPA forwarded to the Commission by the BRTF includes Bolsa Chica SMCA and Bolsa Chica SMR. Due to ongoing activities that are incompatible with a SMR designation, Bolsa Chica SMR must be re-designated as an SMCA. Because this change results in two proposed MPAs with the same name, in order to avoid confusion, the proposed regulation includes modified names for each MPA, based on the geographic reference for each portion of the bay. Therefore, Bolsa Chica SMCA and Bolsa Chica SMR are re-named as “Bolsa Bay SMCA” and “Bolsa Chica Basin SMCA” respectively, to avoid confusion.

Regulatory sub-options

At the Commission’s **March 3**, 2010 meeting, the Commission directed the Department to develop regulatory sub-options for eleven of the proposed MPAs within the Commission’s preferred alternative, to provide alternatives to either boundaries or take regulations in the IPA that address Department feasibility concerns, or requested by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks). The Commission also added sub-options for two existing MPAs not included in the IPA at the request of State Parks, for a total of thirteen MPAs with sub-options. These sub-options include the following choices:

Arrow Point to Lion Head Point (Catalina Island) SMCA boundaries-

The proposed MPA utilizes the seaward boundary of a long-standing special closure, which is represented by an undulating line based on a specific distance from the coastline. Note that existing coordinates are updated in the proposed regulation to reflect more precise GIS coordinates using modern technology. However, the seaward boundary does not meet Department feasibility guidelines.

Option 1: Retain coordinates as proposed in IPA.

Option 2: Use straight lines between coordinates to approximate the distance offshore.

Straight line coordinates are recommended to facilitate enforcement and public understanding. The proposed straight lines intentionally avoid inclusion of Eagle Reef, a popular destination for recreational lobster diving.

Casino Point and Lover's Cove (Catalina Island) SMCAs proposed permitted activities-

Feeding fish in the area offshore from the City of Avalon is a long-standing practice associated with local tourism. Food is provided to fish in order to attract the local species to enhance marine life viewing. In the general rules and provisions governing MPAs in subsection 632(a), Title 14, CCR, feeding fish is prohibited except in relation to fishing allowances within SMCA and state marine recreational management areas. As such, designation of an MPA at Casino Point and Lover's Cove would prevent the practice from continuing. This was not considered during the South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (SCRSG) planning process, so the proposed regulation provides an option to allow or disallow this practice to continue within specific MPAs as follows:

Option 1: Do not allow the feeding of fish.

Option 2: Allow for the feeding of fish the purpose of marine life viewing.

Proposed option 2 requires an addition to the regulations in the general rules and provisions (subsection 632(a), Title 14, CCR) that allows for feeding of fish for marine life viewing purposes to be specified within regulations for individual MPAs.

Laguna Beach SMR boundaries and designation-

A wastewater outfall pipe crosses the southern boundary of the proposed SMR. Although the discharge end of the outfall pipe falls outside the boundaries of the proposed MPA, operation and maintenance activities associated with the portion of the outfall pipe that is within the proposed MPA are incompatible with the SMR designation. However, the only area within the proposed Laguna Beach SMR that would be affected by these operations lies within approximately the southernmost mile of the MPA. Therefore, options are provided to allow for the continued operation of the outfall pipe by either: a) revising the entire designation to an SMCA (option 1); b) dividing the geography into two no-fishing MPAs with an SMR designation along the majority of the area, with an SMCA designated along approximately the southernmost mile of the area which would increase the number of MPAs by one (option 2); c) or modifying the south-eastern boundary of the SMR to exclude the pipeline area (option 3). In addition, options are incorporated to address feasibility concerns raised in public comment and by Department enforcement and local enforcement partners. The proposed SMR boundaries adhere to Department feasibility guidelines; however, feedback received from the public and local MPA management partners indicates that the angle of the coastline in this geography does not work well with strict north/south – east/west boundaries. This is particularly true for user groups accessing the area from shore, who generally fish without the aid of Global Positioning System units to identify coordinate-based boundaries. Therefore, options are provided to address feasibility of boundaries by modifying the northern and southern boundaries to be oriented perpendicular to the shore, in two different configurations (Options 4 and 5).

A summary of Options 1-5 are provided below:

Option 1: Retain coordinates as proposed and change designation to a non-fishing SMCA that allows for wastewater outfall operation and maintenance.

Option 2: Divide Option 1 geography into two MPAs, with an SMR north of the wastewater outfall pipe and create a non-fishing SMCA band at the southern portion of the proposal boundary, including the wastewater outfall pipe, which allows for operation and maintenance of the outfall. This option would increase the number of MPAs by one.

Option 3: Modify the southern boundary to exclude the pipe, by moving the southeast corner of the SMR northward to the nearest prominent rocks, which results in a nearshore line perpendicular to shore.

Option 4: Use the southern boundary in Option 3, and also modify the northern boundary in the nearshore area to be perpendicular to shore. Seaward, the boundaries adhere largely to the size and shape of the IPA (Option 1). This shape excludes the wastewater outfall pipe.

Option 5: This is a variation of Option 4 in which the northern and southern boundaries extend perpendicular from shore out to the state waters boundary.

Robert E. Badham SMCA name option-

This existing MPA is subsumed into Crystal Cove SMCA in the IPA. However, the history of the naming of this existing MPA is relevant for consideration of whether or not to retain the historic name.

This MPA, originally designated as the Newport Beach Marine Life Refuge, was renamed as Robert E. Badham Marine Life Refuge (reclassified as an SMCA per the MLPA) in response to Senate Resolution No. 17, adopted by the California Senate in 1999. In light of this history, two options are provided:

Option 1: As proposed in the IPA, remove existing MPA name and subsume area into Crystal Cove SMCA (Links to Crystal Cove Boundary Options 1 and 2).

Option 2: Retain existing MPA name. Divide the proposed Crystal Cove SMCA area into two distinct MPAs to retain the historic name Robert E. Badham for the area north of the Crystal Cove State Park land boundary (Links to Crystal Cove Boundary Options 3 and 4).

Crystal Cove SMCA boundaries-

Since this MPA shares a boundary with the Laguna Beach SMR, some of the Laguna options will result in a change to the southern boundary of this MPA (Boundary Options 1 and 2 below). Options for Robert E. Badham will also affect the northern boundary of this MPA (in Boundary Options 3 and 4 below).

Boundary Option 1: Retain coordinates as proposed in the IPA (Links to Laguna Options 1, 2, and 3, and Robert E. Badham Option 1).

Boundary Option 2: Modify the southern boundary (Links to Laguna Options 4 and 5, and Robert E. Badham Option 1).

Boundary Option 3: Divide the Option 1 geography into two MPAs, with the northern boundary of Crystal Cove SMCA terminating at the State Park boundary. The remaining area within the geography north of the boundary would retain the original name of Robert E. Badham SMCA (Links to Laguna Options 1, 2, and 3, and Robert E. Badham Option 2). This option would increase the number of MPAs by one.

Boundary Option 4: Divide the Option 2 geography into two MPAs, with the northern boundary of Crystal Cove SMCA terminating at the State Park boundary, and the remaining area within the geography north of the boundary would retain the original name of Robert E. Badham SMCA (Links to Laguna Options 4 and 5, and Robert E. Badham Option 2). This option would increase the number of MPAs by one.

Crystal Cove SMCA take regulations-

Crystal Cove SMCA as proposed in the IPA prohibits fishing except for recreational take of finfish by hook and line or by spearfishing, lobster, and sea urchin; and commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net, spiny lobster by trap, and sea urchin. However, State Parks has requested that the Commission consider prohibiting all commercial fishing based on the rationale that commercial take conflicts with the adjacent Crystal Cove State Park General Plan for enhancing recreational activities and potential future designation as a State Marine Park. Therefore, take options are provided for Crystal Cove as follows:

Take Option A: Allow commercial and recreational take as proposed in the IPA.

Take Option B: Prohibit commercial take.

Dana Point SMCA boundaries-

Since this MPA shares a boundary with the Laguna Beach SMR, some of the Laguna options will result in a change to the northern boundary of this MPA (Boundary Options 1 and 2).

Boundary Option 1: Retain coordinates as proposed (Links to Laguna Options 1 and 2).

Boundary Option 2: Modify the northern boundary (Links to Laguna Options 3, 4 and 5).

Dana Point SMCA other access and collecting restrictions-

The existing Dana Point SMCA contains language derived from legislation passed in 1993 to increase protection in the originally-established Dana Point Marine Life Refuge (reclassified as an SMCA per the MLPA). The legislation prohibited entry into the intertidal zone for purposes of taking or possessing any species of fish, plant, or invertebrate, except under a scientific collecting permit issued by the Department, and an additional approval obtained from the director of the Dana Point SMCA to collect within the SMCA. The existing SMCA covers the geographic area around the Dana Point Headlands. However, the proposed regulation expands the coastal coverage of the Dana Point SMCA northward by over three linear miles, and adds an allowance for recreational take from the shore. This proposed allowance would be in conflict with the existing restrictions on entering the intertidal area to fish. Therefore, the proposed regulation includes two options.

Access Option A: Remove existing restrictions to entry into the intertidal zone, and scientific collecting oversight by the director of the Dana Point SMCA.

Access Option B: Retain existing restrictions to entry into the intertidal zone and scientific collecting oversight by the director of the Dana Point SMCA. This restriction would be limited to a defined area that corresponds to the area around the Dana Point Headlands which is southward of a line at latitude 33° 27.74' N.

Swami's SMCA boundaries-

The proposed northern and southern boundaries for this MPA fall in the middle of beaches without visible and permanent landmarks. Because these beaches have very high visitation rates of more than three million people annually, many of whom fish from the beach, Department enforcement have raised concerns that the public may find it difficult to locate the boundaries unless aligned with landmarks. To facilitate public understanding, the Department recommended moving the northern boundary northward to align with Cottonwood Creek (Option 2), and State Parks recommended moving the southern boundary southward to the edge of State Parks land (end of state beach) (Option 3 and 4). It should be noted that a movement of the southern boundary in Options 3 and 4 would encompass the discharge end of the San Elijo wastewater discharge pipe.

Boundary Option 1: Retain coordinates as proposed in IPA.

Boundary Option 2: Move northern boundary northward to Cottonwood Creek.

Boundary Option 3: Move southern boundary south to align with State Parks Beach boundary.
Boundary Option 4: Move northern boundary per Option 2 and southern boundary per Option 3.

Swami's SMCA take regulations-

Additionally, State Parks has requested the consideration of sub-options for this proposed MPA due to conflicts with current State Parks unit management. State Parks states that the proposed modification of the existing MPA conflicts with State Beach classification and general plans. The proposed MPA will affect both Cardiff and San Elijo State Beaches. More than three million people visit these beaches annually. San Elijo State Beach provides 172 campsites. The classification of a State Park System unit forms the foundation on which all management and development policies are based. State Beaches are a class of State Recreational Areas that are operated to provide outdoor recreation opportunities. State Beaches provide swimming, boating, fishing, and other beach-oriented recreational activities. An SMCA that prohibits shore fishing would conflict with one of the primary purposes of these park units. Therefore, State Parks recommends allowing shore-based fishing. The proposed regulation provides sub-options that add shore-based fishing with hook and line gear as an allowed recreational take method in the SMCA (see sub-options for allowed take in Options 3, and 4). These options meet Department feasibility guidelines but reduce the SAT LOP from high to moderate-low.

Take Option A: Recreational fishing regulations as proposed in IPA.

Take Option B: Adds shore-base fishing with hook and line gear as an allowed recreational take method in the SMCA.

San Diego Scripps Coastal SMCA and Matlahuayl SMR Boundaries-

In the IPA proposal, the Scripps Pier cuts diagonally across the boundary between these two proposed MPAs. Although the pier is not a fishing pier, it is common for recreational anglers fishing from boats to target fish for bait underneath the pier structure, which would be allowed to continue in the San Diego Scripps Coastal SMCA under the proposed regulation. As part of the pier is inside the proposed SMCA and part in the proposed SMR boundaries, this presents confusion for the public, resulting in enforcement difficulties. In addition, the boundary as proposed will require re-designation of Matlahuayl from a SMR to a SMCA to allow for operation and maintenance of the pier structure. Therefore, the proposed regulation adds an option to address both issues, to move the shared boundary between the two MPAs southward to below the pier, as follows:

San Diego-Scripps Coastal SMCA Option 1: Retain coordinates as proposed in the IPA (Linked to Matlahuayl Option 1).

San Diego-Scripps Coastal SMCA Option 2: Move the southern boundary south to below the base of Scripps Pier (Linked to Matlahuayl Option 2).

Matlahuayl SMCA Option 1: Change designation from SMR to SMCA; retain coordinates as proposed in IPA (Linked to San Diego-Scripps Coastal SMCA Option 2).

Matlahuayl SMR Option 2: Retain SMR designation, move northern boundary south below base of pier (Linked to San Diego-Scripps Coastal SMCA Option 2).

South La Jolla SMR/SMCA-

This inshore/offshore MPA complex has a shared northern and southern boundary. As proposed in the IPA, the northern boundary bisects an intertidal reef that is popular for recreational harvest of invertebrates at low tide. Additionally, the southern boundary falls in the middle of a public beach without a permanent and visible landmark. Both of these boundaries

may lead to enforcement and public understanding challenges. Therefore, boundary options are provided to address feasibility concerns for the northern and southern boundaries:

Option 1: Retain coordinates as proposed in IPA.

Option 2: Move northern boundary to north of the intertidal reef to align with Palomar Avenue.

Option 3: Move southern boundary one block south to align with Missouri Street.

Option 4: Move both northern and southern boundaries per Options 2 and 3.

State Parks request to retain two existing MPAs

Two existing MPAs (Refugio SMCA and Doheny Beach SMCA) are not retained in the original IPA of 35 MPAs submitted by the BRTF to the Commission for the proposed regulation.

However, State Parks requests that these MPAs be retained, and has provided the following rationale:

Refugio SMCA-

Proposed removal of this existing MPA would decrease protection and open up the area to potential increased commercial extraction. The area includes significant natural values as well as sensitive archeological sites. The shallow relief reefs and interspersed sand substrate environments of this site contribute to high biological diversity. Culturally diverse as well, the area was once a popular trading ship anchorage, and prehistoric Chumash stone bowls have been found within this site. Refugio State Beach receives over 100,000 visitors each year and is popular for SCUBA diving, swimming, recreational fishing and sea kayaking. Existing interpretive programs include kayak and tidepool tours. The existing Refugio State Beach is impacted by commercial lobster trapping. Parks staff must regularly remove lobster traps that drift too close inshore and abandoned traps that lay within the park lease. Therefore, the following options are included in the proposed regulation:

Option 1: Remove the existing Refugio SMCA from the proposed regulation, as per the IPA.

Option 2: Retain the existing regulations for Refugio SMCA within the proposed regulation.

This option would increase the number of MPAs by one.

Doheny Beach SMCA-

Proposed removal of this existing MPA would decrease existing protection and decrease educational opportunity. Doheny State Beach includes an existing underwater recreation area and the Doheny Beach Marine Life Refuge, which was designated in 1969 by the Legislature specifically to protect tidepool invertebrates. The existing protections are moderate and do not affect commercial activities. Although relatively small, over 1.6 million people visited Doheny State Beach in 2008. Therefore, the following options are included in the proposed regulation:

Option 1: Remove the existing Doheny Beach SMCA from the proposed regulation, as per the IPA.

Option 2: Retain the existing regulations for Doheny Beach SMCA within the proposed regulation. This option would increase the number of MPAs by one.

Revisions to Proposed Regulation

Subsequent to the publication of the proposed regulation, several issues were brought to the Commission's attention regarding the proposed regulation and were detailed in a Department memo dated October 11, 2010. These issues were similar in nature to those addressed by the Commission in the proposed regulation and would be considered minor adjustments to better align the proposed regulation with the original intent.

Therefore, at its October 20, 2010 meeting, the Commission directed the Department to address the identified issues in the specific proposed MPAs, as additional regulatory sub-options within the proposed regulation, consistent with previous actions taken by

the Commission.

The issues discussed below fall into two general categories:

- 1) Ongoing activities regulated by other agencies (in 5 instances); and
- 2) Proposed language that needs to be clarified or revised to match the original intent (5 instances).

1) Ongoing activities regulated by other agencies:

Allowances for pre-existing activities regulated by other agencies have been included within 23 MPAs. The intent was to accommodate all known pre-existing activities, pursuant to required federal, state, or local permits, within the proposed MPAs.

However, in five proposed MPAs, activities have been identified that were not known at the time the allowances were specified in the original proposed MPA regulations. These include Campus Point, Point Dume, Laguna Beach, Dana Point, and Doheny Beach. For two of the five MPAs, some activities were specified in the original proposed regulation but additional activities were later identified that would expand the list of activities. This revised proposed regulation adds options to accommodate the take associated with these activities pursuant to required federal, state, and local permits, as follows:

Campus Point SMR: Oil and gas pipelines have been identified that prevent designation as an SMR. An option is added to the IPA to address these existing structures. The original IPA becomes “Option 1” and the added “Option 2” integrates identified activities, as follows:

- **Campus Point Option 2:** Change designation to SMCA and add provision for operation and maintenance of artificial structures.

Point Dume SMCA: An option is added to the IPA due to ongoing beach nourishment activities. The original IPA becomes “Option 1” and the added “Option 2” integrates identified activities, as follows:

- **Point Dume Option 2:** Add provision for beach nourishment and other sediment management activities to SMCA.

Laguna Beach SMR/SMCA: Five options already exist for this location based on different boundaries. New activities that have been identified in this location occur along Aliso Beach, where operations take place under county jurisdiction. The area of county operation overlaps with the southernmost portion of the SMCA in Laguna Beach Options 1 and 2, and therefore the additional activities would be added to a revised version of those options. The existing Laguna Beach Options 3, 4, and 5 have a different southern boundary. The boundary in these options is sited at the city/county beach line, and thus does not include the area of county operation. Therefore, a Revised Option 1 and 2 (indicated by an “R”) is added to integrate identified activities, as follows:

- **Laguna Beach SMCA Option 1-R:** Same as Option 1, but add beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration to the list of permitted activities inside the SMCA.
- **Laguna Beach Option 2-R:** Same as Option 2, but add beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration to the list of permitted activities inside the SMCA (Note that the Laguna Beach SMR in Option 2 is unaffected and remains unchanged).

Dana Point SMCA: This proposed SMCA is adjacent to the proposed MPA at Laguna Beach and therefore activities identified for Laguna Beach may overlap with the northern portion of Dana Point. Therefore, an option is added to the IPA. The original IPA becomes “Take Option A” and the added “Take Option B” integrates identified activities, as follows:

- **Dana Point Take Option A:** Take as proposed in the IPA.
- **Dana Point Take Option B:** Same as Dana Point Take Option A, but add beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration.

Doheny Beach SMCA: Two options already exist for this MPA. Option 1 excludes the existing SMCA, and Option 2 retains the existing SMCA, which does not specify an allowance for existing activities. Therefore, a Revised Option 2 (indicated by an “R”) is added to integrate identified activities, as follows:

- **Doheny Beach Option 2-R:** Same as Doheny Beach Option 2, but add provision for operation and maintenance of artificial structures and facilities and activities associated with development, construction, and operation and maintenance of desalination facilities.

2) Proposed language to clarify or revise to match the original intent:

Select issues related to proposed regulated activities within MPAs were identified that do not match the intent of the proposal forwarded by the BRTF and Commission. These are detailed within the Department memo dated October 11, 2010. Therefore, options are added to in an effort to address the following five issues:

Upper Newport Bay: A swimming restriction included throughout the SMCA but intended for only a portion of the SMCA

Crystal Cove, Robert E. Badham, and Dana Point: Language clarifying that take from tidepools is prohibited in these SMCAs not included as intended

Laguna Beach SMR/SMCA: Restriction on boat launching, retrieval and anchoring erroneously included

Boundary Error: Minor boundary error identified at shared boundary between Laguna Beach SMR and Dana Point SMCA in Laguna Beach Boundary Options 3, 4, and 5

General Provision – Public Safety: Lack of clear language regarding allowance of lifeguard towers adjacent to SMRs and other MPAs

Upper Newport Bay –The existing Upper Newport Bay SMP was originally established to encompass the marine waters of the Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve and is proposed to be retained as an SMCA and expanded. It retains restrictions on swimming, boating and shoreline access, consistent with Section 630 (Title 14, California Code of Regulations) as intended by the SCRSG. However, the proposed SMCA boundaries expand the MPA to the west of the existing Ecological Reserve boundaries, to encompass additional portions of the bay, and overlap with a designated swimming beach. The restrictions are not intended to apply to the area outside the ecological reserve or affect swimming opportunities at the swimming beach. Therefore, the original IPA becomes “Option 1” and “Option 2” is added, as follows:

- **Upper Newport Bay Option 2:** Apply restrictions on swimming, boating and shoreline access to the portion of waters that overlap with the Ecological Reserve only.

Crystal Cove, Robert E. Badham and Dana Point– These proposed SMCAs span the shoreline area above and below Laguna Beach. A key objective identified by the SCRSG for these SMCAs is to protect the tidepools while allowing for limited harvest of select species outside the tidepools. To improve public understanding that take within tidepools is prohibited, a Revised Option (indicated by an “R”) is provided for existing options at Robert E. Badham and Crystal Cove, and at Dana Point, the original IPA becomes “Take Option A”, and Take Option B is added, as follows:

- **Robert E. Badham Option 2-R:** Option 2-R is the same as Robert E. Badham Option 2, but adds language to specify that take is prohibited from inside tidepools.
- **Crystal Cove Take Option A-R:** Same as Crystal Cove Take Option A, but adds language to specify that take is prohibited from inside tidepools.
- **Crystal Cove Take Option B-R:** Same as Crystal Cove Take Option B, but adds language to specify that take is prohibited from inside tidepools.
- **Dana Point Take Option B:** Same as Dana Point Take Option A, but adds language to specify that take is prohibited from inside tidepools.

Laguna Beach– The currently proposed MPA(s) at Laguna Beach specify in subsection 632(b)(112) that boats may be launched and retrieved only in designated areas and may be anchored within the conservation area only during daylight hours. This restriction on boat launching, retrieval and anchoring was inadvertently and erroneously retained from the existing MPA regulations at Heisler Park, which is subsumed into the Laguna Beach MPA(s). Therefore, a Revised Option (indicated by an “R”) is included to remove these restrictions, as follows:

- **Option 1-R:** Same as Laguna Beach Option 1, but remove restrictions on boat launching, retrieval and anchoring (in addition to added allowance for beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration in the SMCA).
- **Option 2-R:** Same as Laguna Beach Option 2, but remove restrictions on boat launching, retrieval and anchoring from the SMR and SMCA (in addition to added allowance for beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration inside the SMCA).
- **Option 3-R:** Same as Laguna Beach Option 3, but remove restrictions on boat launching, retrieval and anchoring.
- **Option 4-R:** Same as Laguna Beach Option 4, but remove restrictions on boat launching, retrieval and anchoring.
- **Option 5-R:** Same as Laguna Beach Option 5, but remove restrictions on boat launching, retrieval and anchoring.

Boundary Error:

In addition to the proposed changes above for the Laguna MPAs, a correction has been made to the southern boundary of the proposed SMR at Laguna Beach in Options 3, 4, and 5. The southern boundary was intended to align with the division between beaches under city and county jurisdiction, as defined by a group of prominent nearshore rocks. However, due to a mapping error, the boundary ends at the rock rather than aligning with the rock and extending to the mean high tideline of the shoreline, as intended. Therefore, in subsection 632(b)(112), the southern boundary in

Options 3, 4, and 5 of the proposed MPA at Laguna Beach has been adjusted shoreward by approximately 150 feet. This aligns the southern boundary with the visible rock delineating the city and county beaches while extending to shore, as originally intended. In addition, these options are linked to Boundary Option 2 of the proposed SMCA at Dana Point due to the shared boundary between these proposed MPAs. Therefore, in subsection 632(b)(113), the northern boundary of Option 2 of the proposed MPA at Dana Point has also been corrected.

General Provision - Public Safety:

Lifeguard towers are artificial structures that provide for public safety along the beaches of the southern California region, and require activities such as installation and/or seasonal placement and removal, and maintenance. In certain locations, these activities occur on the beach below the mean high tide line and, in some cases, would overlap with proposed SMRs (most notably in Laguna Beach and San Diego). While other ongoing activities have precluded SMR designation, activities that provide for public safety, can be allowed inside MPAs, including SMRs. The MLPA states that marine reserves shall be open to the public for managed enjoyment "to the extent feasible," and have a goal of improving recreational opportunities provided by marine ecosystems subject to minimal human disturbance (Fish and Game Code subsection 2852(d)). While activities such as walking, swimming, boating and diving may be restricted to protect marine resources (Public Resources Code subsection 36710(a)), these activities are not prohibited broadly within MPAs. Therefore, under existing regulations, actions necessary to ensure those public safety activities are authorized in any MPA pursuant to required federal, state, and local permits, an allowance does not need to be specified within individual MPA regulations. However, to make it explicit that the provision for managed enjoyment in MPAs applies to public safety-related activities and artificial structures, an option to add subsection 632(a)(10) to the general rules and regulations in Section 632(a) of the revised proposed regulation is included, to clarify that these activities are authorized in all MPAs pursuant to any required federal, state, and local permits.

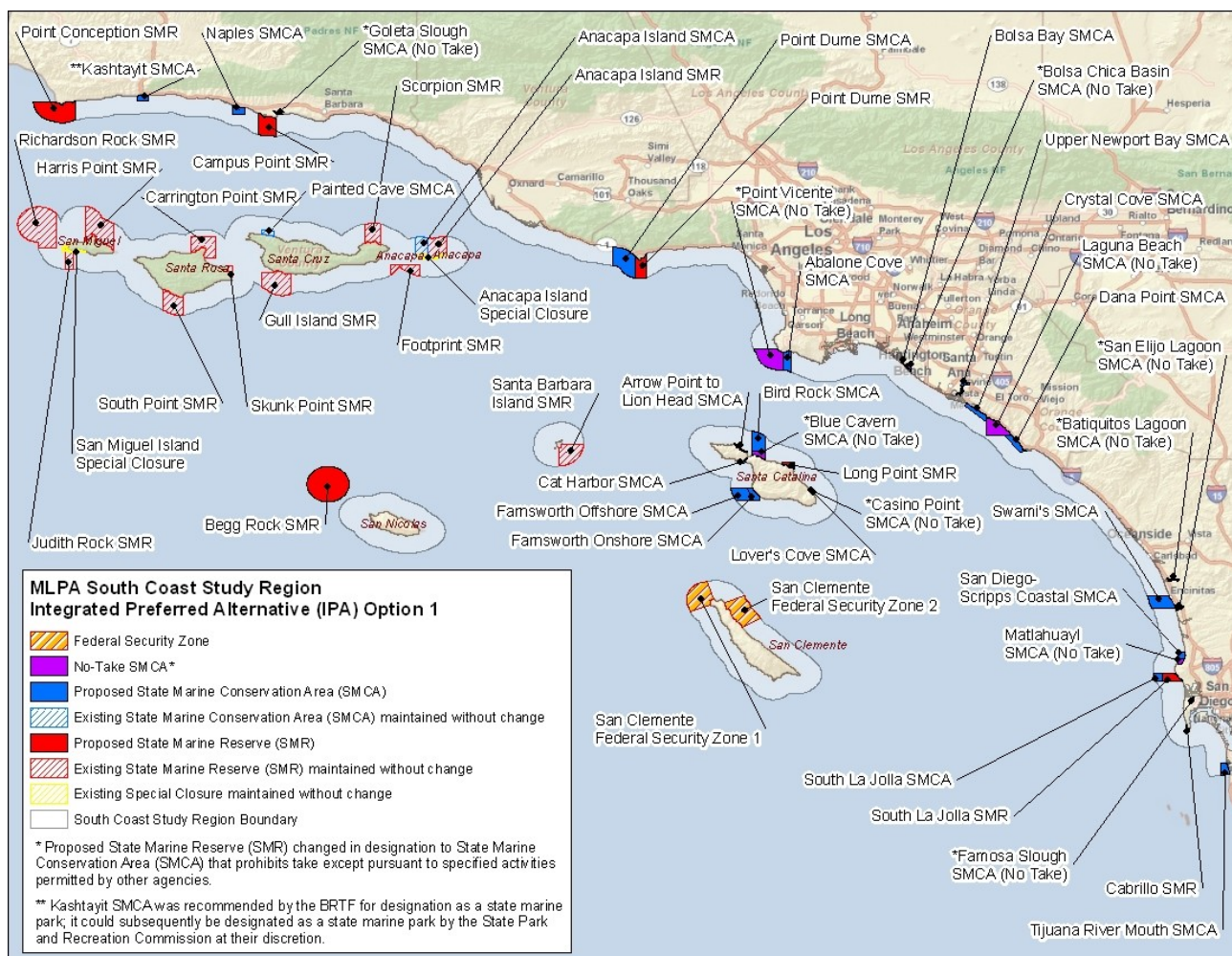


Figure 1. Marine protected areas in proposed regulation known as IPA. The IPA as displayed includes 35 proposed new MPAs (alternatives within the proposed regulation provide options to add three MPAs not displayed here, and boundary options for 9 MPAs in 5 geographies); the figure also shows 2 existing special closures and 13 existing MPAs in the northern Channel Islands and Santa Barbara Island, which are not under re-consideration in this proposal, and two federal Safety Zones at San Clemente Island that are considered to contribute to the network but do not have an MPA designation.

Proposed Regulation Details

Table 1 presents proposed MPAs in the IPA including the MPA designation, options for specific MPAs, proposed allowed take, other proposed regulated activities, and MLPA SAT assigned level of protection.

Other terms used in Table 1 include “pelagic finfish,” “finfish,” and “coastal pelagic species” with the following definitions:

- Pelagic finfish are defined in subsection 632(a)(3) as: northern anchovy (*Engraulis mordax*), barracudas (*Sphyraena spp.*), billfishes* (family Istiophoridae) (except that marlin is not allowed for commercial take), dolphinfish/dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*), Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*), jack mackerel (*Trachurus symmetricus*), Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), salmon (*Oncorhynchus spp.*), Pacific sardine (*Sardinops sagax*), blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), salmon shark (*Lamna ditropis*), shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), thresher sharks (*Alopias spp.*), swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*), tunas (family Scombridae), and yellowtail (*Seriola lalandi*).
- Finfish are defined in subsection 632(a)(2) as any species of bony fish or cartilaginous fish (sharks, skates and rays). Finfish do not include amphibians, invertebrates, plants or algae. The definition of finfish provided in Section 159 does not apply to this Section.
- Coastal pelagic species are defined in Section 1.39 as: northern anchovy (*Engraulis mordax*), Pacific sardine (*Sardinops sagax*), Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), jack mackerel (*Trachurus symmetricus*), and market squid (*Loligo opalescens*).

Table 1. Proposed regulation¹ (Integrated Preferred Alternative) for marine protected areas (MPAs) in the south coast region (excluding the northern Channel Islands), including description of options, proposed allowed take, other proposed regulated activities, and SAT-assigned LOP. Marine protected areas are arranged geographically from north to south, including Catalina Island. **Options added in the revised proposed regulation are shown in bold. Options with an “R” indicate that this is a “Revised” version of the indicated option.**

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Point Conception State Marine Reserve	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	---	Very High
OPTIONS EXIST (1-2) TO EXCLUDE OR INCLUDE REFUGIO				
Option 1: Exclude Refugio State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA: Removes existing SMCA as reflected in IPA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Option 2: Refugio State Marine Conservation Area	2: Retains existing SMCA and adds to IPA (State Parks option)	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only the following species may be taken recreationally: finfish, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels and marine worms except that no worms may be taken in any mussel bed unless taken incidentally to the take of mussels. Only the following species may be taken commercially: finfish, crabs, ghost shrimp, jackknife clams, sea urchins, algae except giant kelp and bull kelp and worms except that no worms may be taken in any mussel bed, nor may any person pick up, remove, detach from the substrate any other organisms, or break up, 	---	Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
		move or destroy any rocks or other substrate or surfaces to which organisms are attached.		
Kashtayit State Marine Conservation Area ³	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of finfish and invertebrates, except rock scallops and mussels, The recreational take of giant kelp by hand harvest	Allows maintenance of artificial structures and operation and maintenance of existing facilities pursuant to any required permits, or as otherwise authorized by the Department ²	Low
Naples State Marine Conservation Area	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of pelagic finfish (including Pacific bonito) and white seabass by spearfishing The commercial take of giant kelp by hand harvest, or by mechanical harvest	Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits, or as otherwise authorized by the Department ²	Low
TAKE AND DESIGNATION OPTIONS EXIST (1-2) FOR CAMPUS POINT				
Option 1: Campus Point State Marine Reserve ⁵	1: IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	---	Very High
Option 2: Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	2: Change MPA designation from SMR to SMCA and add provision for other regulated activities ⁴	Same as Option 1	Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures inside conservation area pursuant to any required federal, state and local permits, or as otherwise authorized by the Department ²	Very High
Goleta Slough State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows maintenance dredging, habitat restoration, research and education, maintenance of artificial structures, and operation and maintenance of existing facilities pursuant to any required permits, activities pursuant to Section 630, Title 14, CCR, or as otherwise authorized by the	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
			Department ² Boating, swimming, wading, and diving are prohibited in waters below the mean high tide line in the Goleta Slough Ecological Reserve as defined within Section 630, Title 14, CCR	
Begg Rock (San Nicholas Island Quad) State Marine Reserve	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	---	Very High
TAKE OPTIONS EXIST (1-2) FOR POINT DUME SMCA				
Option 1: Point Dume State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The recreational take of pelagic finfish, including Pacific bonito, and white seabass by spearfishing ▪ The commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net and swordfish by harpoon 	---	High
Option 2: Point Dume State Marine Conservation Area	2: IPA with a provision for other regulated activities added	Same as Option 1	Beach nourishment and other sediment management activities are allowed inside the conservation area pursuant to any required federal, state and local permits, or as otherwise authorized by the Department²	High
Point Dume State Marine Reserve	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	---	Very High
Point Vicente State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows remediation activities associated with the Palos Verdes Shelf Operable Unit of the Montrose Chemical Superfund Site within the conservation area pursuant to the Interim Record of Decision issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any subsequent Records of Decision ²	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Abalone Cove State Marine Conservation Area	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The recreational take of pelagic finfish, including Pacific bonito, and white seabass by spearfishing only, and market squid by hand-held dip net ▪ The commercial take of coastal pelagic species and Pacific bonito by round haul net, and swordfish by harpoon 	Allows remediation activities associated with the Palos Verdes Shelf Operable Unit of the Montrose Chemical Superfund Site within the conservation area pursuant to the Interim Record of Decision issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any subsequent Records of Decision ²	High
Bolsa Bay State Marine Conservation Area ⁶	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The recreational take of finfish by hook and line from shore in designated areas only 	Allows routine operation and maintenance, habitat restoration, maintenance dredging, research and education, and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits, activities pursuant to Section 630, Title 14, CCR, or as otherwise authorized by the Department ² Boating, swimming, wading, and diving are prohibited; access restricted between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.	Moderate Low
Bolsa Chica Basin State Marine Conservation Area ^{4, 6}	IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows routine operation and maintenance, habitat restoration, maintenance dredging, research and education, and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits, activities pursuant to Section 630, Title 14, CCR, or as otherwise authorized by the Department ² Boating, swimming, wading, and diving prohibited; access restricted between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-2) EXIST FOR ARROW POINT TO LION HEAD POINT (CATALINA ISLAND)				
Option 1: Arrow Point to Lion Head Point (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	1: Seaward boundary defined by distance from shore as described in IPA	Recreational take of marine invertebrates is prohibited; take of all other species is allowed	---	Low
Option 2: Arrow Point to Lion Head Point (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	2: Uses straight line boundaries to improve feasibility	Recreational take of marine invertebrates is prohibited; take of all other species is allowed	---	Low
Blue Cavern (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits, or as otherwise authorized by the Department ²	Very High
Bird Rock (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The recreational take of pelagic finfish including Pacific bonito by hook and line or by spearfishing, white seabass by spearfishing and market squid by hand-held dip net ▪ The commercial take of pelagic finfish by hook and line only and swordfish by harpoon 	---	High
Long Point (Catalina Island) State Marine Reserve	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	---	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
TAKE OPTIONS (1-2) EXIST FOR CASINO POINT (CATALINA ISLAND)				
Option 1: Casino Point (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	1: IPA ⁴ : No allowance for feeding as described in IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as otherwise authorized by the Department ²	Very High
Option 2: Casino Point (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	2: Adds allowance for feeding of fish to IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: feeding of fish for marine life viewing is allowed	Same as Option 1	Very High
TAKE OPTIONS (1-2) EXIST FOR LOVER'S COVE (CATALINA ISLAND)				
Option 1: Lover's Cove (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA: No allowance for feeding as described in IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: recreational fishing from public pier by hook and line	Allows maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as otherwise authorized by the Department ²	Moderate High
Option 2: Lover's Cove (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	2: Adds allowance for feeding of fish to IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: recreational fishing from public pier by hook and line, and feeding of fish for marine life viewing is allowed	Same as Option 1	Moderate High
Farnsworth Onshore (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of pelagic finfish, including Pacific bonito, and white seabass by spearfishing only, market squid by hand-held dip net, and marlin, tunas and dorado by trolling 	---	High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net and swordfish by harpoon 		
Farnsworth Offshore (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	IPA	<p>Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of pelagic finfish, including Pacific bonito, by hook and line or spearfishing, white seabass by spearfishing only, market squid by hand-held dip net, and marlin, tunas and dorado by trolling The commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net and swordfish by harpoon 	---	High
Cat Harbor (Catalina Island) State Marine Conservation Area	IPA	<p>Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of finfish by hook and line or by spearfishing, squid by hook and line, and lobster and sea urchin The commercial take of sea cucumbers by diving, and spiny lobster and sea urchin <p>Aquaculture of finfish is allowed pursuant to a valid State water bottom lease and valid permits</p>	Allows maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as otherwise authorized by the Department ²	Moderate Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
TAKE OPTIONS EXIST (1-2) FOR UPPER NEWPORT BAY				
Option 1: Upper Newport Bay State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of finfish by hook and line from shore only	Allows maintenance dredging, habitat restoration, research and education programs, maintenance of artificial structures, and operation and maintenance of existing facilities pursuant to any required permits, activities pursuant to Section 630, Title 14, CCR, or as authorized by the Department ² Swimming is allowed only in the area between North Star Beach and mid-channel; boating speed limit of 5 mph; shoreline access is limited	Moderate Low
Option 2: Upper Newport Bay State Marine Conservation Area	2: As described in IPA but existing restrictions on swimming, boating and shoreline access apply only to waters within the Ecological Reserve	Same as Option 1	Same as Option 1, but the following restrictions apply only to waters below the mean high tide line inside the Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve: Swimming is allowed only in the area between North Star Beach and mid-channel; boating speed limit of 5 mph; shoreline access is limited	Moderate Low
OPTIONS (1-2) EXIST TO EXCLUDE OR INCLUDE ROBERT E. BADHAM. THESE ARE LINKED TO BOUNDARY OPTIONS AT CRYSTAL COVE. REVISED OPTION 2 (2-R) IS INCLUDED AS A VARIANT OF OPTION 2 WITH DIFFERENT PROPOSED REGULATED ACTIVITIES.				
Option 1: Do not include Robert E. Badham State Marine Conservation Area	1: As reflected in the IPA, does not retain existing MPA name and subsumes area into Crystal Cove SMCA (linked to Crystal Cove Boundary Options 1&2)	N/A	N/A	N/A

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Option 2: Include Robert E. Badham State Marine Conservation Area	2: Retains existing MPA name by dividing area of proposed Crystal Cove SMCA Boundary Option 1 (from IPA), in area north of State Parks land boundary	Same as Crystal Cove Take Option A	Same as Crystal Cove Take Option A	Moderate Low
Option 2-R: Include Robert E. Badham State Marine Conservation Area	2-R: Same as Option 2, but adds language to clarify that take within tidepools is prohibited	Same as Crystal Cove Take Option A; and Take of all living marine resources from inside tidepools is prohibited. Tidepools are defined as the area encompassing the rocky pools that are filled with seawater due to retracting tides between the mean higher high tide line and the mean lower low tide line.	Same as Crystal Cove Take Option A	Moderate Low
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-4) EXIST FOR CRYSTAL COVE; THESE ARE LINKED TO BOUNDARY OPTIONS AT AND ROBERT E. BADHAM AND LAGUNA BEACH. DECISION ON LAGUNA BEACH BOUNDARY OPTION DETERMINES BOUNDARY OPTION FOR CRYSTAL COVE.				
Boundary Option 1: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA boundaries (linked to Laguna Options 1, 2 & 3 and Robert E. Badham Option 1)	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	Moderate Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Boundary Option 2: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	2: Southern boundary modified for feasibility (linked to Laguna Options 4 & 5 and Robert E. Badham Option 1)	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	Moderate Low
Boundary Option 3: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	3: Divides the Boundary Option 1 geography into two MPAs at northern end of State Park land and applies historic name for Robert E. Badham in northern section. Increases number of MPAs by 1 (linked to Laguna Options 1, 2 & 3 and Robert E. Badham Option 2)	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	Moderate Low
Boundary Option 4: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	4: Divides the Boundary Option 2 geography into two MPAs to retain historic name for Robert E. Badham SMCA. Increases number of MPAs by 1 (linked to Laguna Options 4 & 5 and Robert E. Badham Option 2)	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	Moderate Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
TAKE OPTIONS (A & B) EXIST FOR CRYSTAL COVE. REVISED OPTION A (A-R) AND REVISED OPTION B (B-R) ARE INCLUDED AS A VARIANT OF OPTION A AND OPTION B WITH DIFFERENT PROPOSED REGULATED ACTIVITIES.				
Take Option A: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	A: Take as proposed in the IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of finfish by hook and line or by spearfishing and lobster and sea urchin is allowed The commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net, spiny lobster by trap, and sea urchin 	Allows beach nourishment or other sediment management activities and operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	Moderate Low
Take Option B: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	B: Removes all commercial take allowances from IPA (State Parks option)	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: The recreational take of finfish by hook and line or by spearfishing, and lobster and sea urchin is allowed	Same as Take Option A	Moderate Low
Take Option A-R: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	A-R: Same as Take Option A, but adds language to clarify that take within tidepools is prohibited	Same as Crystal Cove Take Option A; <i>and</i> Take of all living marine resources from inside tidepools is prohibited. Tidepools are defined as the area encompassing the rocky pools that are filled with seawater due to retracting tides between the mean higher high tide line and the mean lower low tide line.	Same as Take Option A	Moderate Low
Take Option B-R: Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area	B-R: Same as Take Option B (State Parks option), but adds language to clarify that take within tidepools is prohibited	Same as Crystal Cove Take Option B; <i>and</i> Take of all living marine resources from inside tidepools is prohibited. Tidepools are defined as the area encompassing the rocky pools that	Same as Take Option A	Moderate Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
		are filled with seawater due to retracting tides between the mean higher high tide line and the mean lower low tide line.		
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-5) EXIST FOR LAGUNA BEACH; THESE ARE LINKED TO BOUNDARY OPTIONS FOR CRYSTAL COVE AND DANA POINT. DECISION ON LAGUNA BEACH BOUNDARY DETERMINES BOUNDARY OPTION FOR CRYSTAL COVE AND DANA POINT. REVISED OPTIONS (1-R, 2-R, 3-R, 4-R, 5-R) ARE INCLUDED AS A VARIANT OF OPTIONS 1 - 5 BASED ON DIFFERENT PROPOSED REGULATED ACTIVITIES.				
Option 1: Laguna Beach State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	1: IPA ⁴ with designation as SMCA with a provision for other regulated activities added (outfall pipe)	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Boats may be launched and retrieved only in designated areas; anchoring restricted to daylight hours Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	Very High
Option 2: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve and Laguna Beach State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	2: Divides the Option 1 geography into two MPAs (SMR/SMCA) with SMCA ⁴ across southern 1.5 miles with a provision for other regulated activities added(outfall pipe). Increases number of MPAs by 1	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Boats may be launched and retrieved only in designated areas; anchoring restricted to daylight hours	Very High
		Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Boats may be launched and retrieved only in designated areas; anchoring restricted to daylight hours Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	Very High
Option 3: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve	3: Modifies southern boundary from Option 1 to exclude outfall pipe, with SMR designation (linked with Dana Point Option 2)	Same as Option 1	Boats may be launched and retrieved only in designated areas; anchoring restricted to daylight hours	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Option 4: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve	4: Modified southern AND northern boundaries from Option 1 with SMR designation to exclude pipe and improve feasibility (linked with Crystal Cove Option 2 & Dana Point Option 2)	Same as Option 1	Same as Option 3	Very High
Option 5: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve	4: Modified southern AND northern boundaries to extend Option 4 nearshore boundaries to the state waters seaward boundary to improve feasibility (linked with Crystal Cove Option 2 & Dana Point Option 2)	Same as Option 1	Same as Option 3	Very High
Option 1-R: Laguna Beach State Marine Conservation Area	1-R: Same as Laguna Beach Option 1 but removes restriction on boat launching, retrieval, and anchoring and adds a provision for other regulated activities	Same as Option 1	Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department² and Allows operation and maintenance of facilities, beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department²	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Option 2-R: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve and Laguna Beach State Marine Conservation Area⁴	2-R: Same as Laguna Beach Option 2 but removes restriction on boat launching, retrieval, and anchoring and adds a provision for other regulated to the SMCA (SMR remains unchanged)	Same as Option 2	---	Very High
		Same as Option 2	Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department² and Allows operation and maintenance of facilities, beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department²	Very High
Option 3-R: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve	3-R: Same as Laguna Beach Option 3 but removes restriction on boat launching, retrieval, and anchoring	Same as Option 1	---	Very High
Option 4-R: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve	4-R: Same as Laguna Beach Option 4 but removes restriction on boat launching, retrieval, and anchoring	Same as Option 1	---	Very High
Option 5-R: Laguna Beach State Marine Reserve	5-R: Same as Laguna Beach Option 5 but removes restriction on boat launching,	Same as Option 1	---	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
	retrieval, and anchoring			
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-2) EXIST FOR DANA POINT; THESE ARE LINKED TO BOUNDARY OPTIONS AT LAGUNA BEACH. DECISION ON BOUNDARY OPTION AT LAGUNA BEACH DETERMINES BOUNDARY OPTION FOR DANA POINT.				
Boundary Option 1: Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA boundaries (linked to Laguna Options 1 & 2)	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B; <i>and</i> See Access Options A and B	Moderate Low
Boundary Option 2: Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area	2: Modified northern boundary for feasibility (linked to Laguna Options 3, 4 & 5)	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B; <i>and</i> See Access Options A and B	Moderate Low
TAKE OPTIONS (A & B) EXIST FOR DANA POINT.				
Take Option A: Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area	A: Take as proposed in the IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of finfish by hook and line or by spearfishing, and lobster and sea urchin is allowed below the mean lower low tide line only The commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net, and spiny lobster and sea urchin	Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ² <i>and</i> See Access Options A and B	Moderate Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Take Option B: Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area	B: Same as Dana Point Take Option A, but adds language to clarify that take within tidepools is prohibited, and adds provision for additional other regulated activities	Same as Take Option A; <i>and</i> Take of all living marine resources from inside tidepools is prohibited. Tidepools are defined as the area encompassing the rocky pools that are filled with seawater due to retracting tides between the mean higher high tide line and the mean lower low tide line	Same as Take Option A; <i>and</i> Allows operation and maintenance of facilities, beach grooming, maintenance dredging, and habitat restoration pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department² <i>and</i> See Access Options A and B	Moderate Low
ACCESS OPTIONS (A & B) EXIST FOR DANA POINT.				
Access Option A: Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area	A: Remove existing restrictions on access for purposes of take, and scientific collecting oversight by the director of the SMCA	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	Moderate Low
Access Option B: Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area	B: Retain existing restrictions on access for purposes of take, and scientific collecting oversight, only in the area of the Dana Point Headlands, southward of a line at latitude 33° 27.74' N.	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B; <i>and</i> Southward of a line at latitude 33° 27.74' N., access to take or possess any fish, plant, or invertebrate is prohibited, except under a scientific collecting permit from the Department and additional special collecting permit from the director of the SMCA.	Moderate Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
OPTIONS EXIST TO EXCLUDE OR INCLUDE DOHENY BEACH (OPTIONS 1 & 2) AND REVISED OPTION 2 (OPTION 2-R) EXISTS AS A VARIANT OF OPTION 2 THAT ALLOWS PERMITTED ACTIVITIES.				
Option 1: Exclude Doheny Beach State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA: Removes existing SMCA as reflected in IPA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Option 2: Doheny Beach State Marine Conservation Area	2: Adds existing SMCA to IPA (per State Parks request)	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only the following species may be taken recreationally: lobster, rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), greenling, lingcod, cabezon, yellowtail, mackerel, bluefin tuna, kelp bass, spotted sand bass, barred sand bass, sargo, croaker, queenfish, California corbina, white seabass, opaleye, halfmoon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), blacksmith, Pacific barracuda, California sheephead, Pacific bonito, California halibut, sole, turbot, and sanddab. Finfish shall be taken only by hook and line or by spearfishing gear. Only spiny lobster may be taken commercially. 	---	Low
Option 2-R: Doheny Beach State Marine Conservation Area	2-R: Same as Doheny Beach Option 2 but a provision for other regulated activities is added	Same as Option 2	Operation and maintenance of artificial structures and development, construction and operation and maintenance of desalination facilities inside the conservation area is allowed pursuant to any required federal, state and local permits, or as otherwise authorized by the	Low

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
			Department².	
Batiquitos Lagoon State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows operation and maintenance, habitat restoration, research and education, maintenance dredging and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits, or pursuant to Section 630, Title 14, CCR, or as authorized by the Department ² Boating, swimming, wading, and diving are prohibited	Very High
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-4) EXIST FOR SWAMI'S.				
Boundary Option 1: Swami's State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA boundaries	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	High
Boundary Option 2: Swami's State Marine Conservation Area	2: Moves northern boundary of Option 1 north to Cottonwood Creek to improve feasibility	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	High
Boundary Option 3: Swami's State Marine Conservation Area	3: Moves southern boundary of Option 1 south to edge of State Parks land (State Parks request) to improve feasibility	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	High
Boundary Option 4: Swami's State Marine	3: Moves northern boundary of Option 1 north to Cottonwood Creek;	See Take Options A and B	See Take Options A and B	High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Conservation Area	AND moves southern boundary south to edge of State Parks land (State Parks request) to improve feasibility			
TAKE OPTIONS (A & B) EXIST FOR SWAMI'S.				
Take Option A: Swami's State Marine Conservation Area	A: IPA take regulations	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: The recreational take of pelagic finfish, including Pacific bonito, and white seabass by spearfishing	Allows beach nourishment or other sediment management activities and operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	High
Take Option B: Swami's State Marine Conservation Area	B: Adds shorefishing to allowed take (State Parks request) – reduces LOP	Same as Take Option A, EXCEPT: ALSO allows recreational take by hook and line from shore only.	Same as Take Option A	Moderate Low
San Elijo Lagoon State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows operations and maintenance, maintenance dredging, habitat restoration including sediment deposition, research and education, and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits, or as authorized under Section 630, Title 14, CCR, or as authorized by the Department ² Boating, swimming, wading and diving are prohibited	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-2) EXIST FOR SAN DIEGO-SCRIPPS COASTAL; THESE ARE LINKED TO BOUNDARY OPTIONS AT MATLAHUAYL. DECISION ON SAN DIEGO-SCRIPPS COASTAL BOUNDARY OPTION DETERMINES BOUNDARY OPTION AND MPA DESIGNATION FOR MATLAHUAYL				
Option 1: San Diego-Scripps Coastal State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA boundaries (Linked to Matlahuayl Option 1)	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: ▪ The recreational take of coastal pelagic species, except market squid, by hook and line	Allows scientific collecting under a scientific collection permit issued by the Department. Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	Moderate Low
Option 2: San Diego-Scripps Coastal State Marine Conservation Area	2: Moves southern boundary from Option 1 below pier to improve feasibility (Linked to Matlahuayl Option 2)	Same as Option 1	Same as Option 1	Moderate Low
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-2) EXIST FOR MATLAHUAYL; THESE ARE LINKED TO BOUNDARY OPTIONS AT SAN DIEGO-SCRIPPS COASTAL. DECISION ON SAN DIEGO-SCRIPPS COASTAL BOUNDARY OPTION DETERMINES BOUNDARY OPTION AND MPA DESIGNATION FOR MATLAHUAYL				
Option 1: Matlahuayl State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	1: IPA Boundary, designated as SMCA ⁴ (Linked to San Diego-Scripps Coastal Option 1)	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Boats may be launched and retrieved only in designated areas; anchoring restricted to daylight hours Allows operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	Very High
Option 2: Matlahuayl State Marine Reserve	2: Moves northern boundary from Option 1 below pier to improve feasibility and retain SMR designation (Linked to San Diego-Scripps Coastal Option 2)	Same as Option 1	Boats may be launched and retrieved only in designated areas; anchoring restricted to daylight hours	Very High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities ²	SAT Level of Protection
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-4) EXIST FOR SOUTH LA JOLLA SMR; THESE ARE LINKED TO SOUTH LA JOLLA SMCA BOUNDARY OPTIONS DUE TO SHARED BOUDARIES. DECISION ON SOUTH LA JOLLA SMR BOUNDARY OPTION DETERMINES BOUNDARY OPTION FOR SOUTH LA JOLLA SMCA				
Option 1: South La Jolla State Marine Reserve	1: IPA boundaries	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	---	Very High
Option 2: South La Jolla State Marine Reserve	2: Moves northern boundary from Option 1 north above intertidal reef to improve feasibility	Same as Option 1	---	Very High
Option 3: South La Jolla State Marine Reserve	3: Moves southern boundary from Option 1 south to major street to improve feasibility	Same as Option 1	---	Very High
Option 4: South La Jolla State Marine Reserve	4: Moves Option 1 northern boundary north above intertidal reef; AND Moves southern boundary south to major street to improve feasibility	Same as Option 1	---	Very High
BOUNDARY OPTIONS (1-4) EXIST FOR SOUTH LA JOLLA SMCA; THESE ARE LINKED TO SOUTH LA JOLLA SMR BOUNDARY OPTIONS DUE TO SHARED BOUNDARIES. DECISION ON SOUTH LA JOLLA SMR BOUNDARY OPTION DETERMINES BOUNDARY OPTION FOR SOUTH LA JOLLA SMCA				
Option 1: South La Jolla State Marine Conservation Area	1: IPA boundaries	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recreational take of pelagic finfish including Pacific bonito by hook and line 	---	High

MPA Name & Designation	Description of MPA Options	Proposed Allowed Take	Other Proposed Regulated Activities²	SAT Level of Protection
Option 2: South La Jolla State Marine Conservation Area	2: Same northern boundary change as South La Jolla SMR Option 2	Same as Option 1	---	High
Option 3: South La Jolla State Marine Conservation Area	3: Moves southern boundary from Option 1 south to major street to improve feasibility	Same as Option 1	---	High
Option 4: South La Jolla State Marine Conservation Area	4: Moves Option 1 northern boundary north above intertidal reef; AND Moves southern boundary south to major street to improve feasibility	Same as Option 1	---	High
Famosa Slough State Marine Conservation Area ⁴	IPA ⁴	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	Allows habitat restoration, maintenance dredging, and operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	Very High
Cabrillo State Marine Reserve	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited	---	Very High
Tijuana River Mouth State Marine Conservation Area	IPA	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The recreational take of coastal pelagic species, except market squid, by hand-held dip net ▪ The commercial take of coastal pelagic species, except market squid, by round haul net 	Allows beach nourishment or other sediment management activities and operation and maintenance of artificial structures pursuant to any required permits or as authorized by the Department ²	High

¹ This table does not include the 13 existing MPAs within the northern Channel Islands. The northern Channel Islands MPAs were retained without modification, at the direction of the Commission, and are not part of this rulemaking. However, they are displayed in the maps and summaries.

- ² Existing activities and operations permitted by other federal, state, or local entities, such as dredging, wastewater outfall operations, maintenance of artificial structures and sand replenishment and other sediment management activities have been identified as occurring within this proposed MPA, which may result in take of marine resources incidental to the activity. Operations or activities identified at the time of designation are included within the proposed regulation to make explicit that MPA designation is not intended to interfere with these permitted activities.
- ³ This area, recommended by stakeholders as an SMP, will be designated as SMCA, and could subsequently be designated a state marine park at the discretion of the State Park and Recreation Commission.
- ⁴ These MPAs, recommended by stakeholders as an SMR, will be designated as SMCAs that allow no take, except as associated with activities regulated by other agencies, pursuant to any valid permits.
- ⁵ Activities related to an existing artificial structure were previously identified as occurring within Campus Point SMR, with a recommendation to change the designation to an SMCA and specify that the permitted activities could continue. Subsequent information indicates that the artificial structure is outside the boundaries of the proposed SMR. Therefore, the regulation retains the SMR designation as proposed.
- ⁶ The names originally proposed (Bolsa Chica SMCA/SMCA) are identical. To avoid confusion, the names have been modified to reflect commonly used terms for each of the respective areas: Bolsa Bay SMCA and Bolsa Chica Basin SMCA.
- ⁷ A preliminary wave energy permit has been granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) at Catalina, that includes part of the proposed expansion of Farnsworth (Catalina) Offshore SMCA, which may need to be included in future regulations for this MPA.

The 35 MPAs in the proposed regulation, in combination with the existing Northern Channel Islands MPAs and federal Safety Zones, cover an area of 387.3 square miles, representing 16.5 percent of state waters within the south coast region. Of this, more than 70 percent of the area is within SMRs or “very high LOP” SMCAs that do not allow fishing, but allow for existing regulated activities to occur. These non-fishing MPAs cover 274.1 square miles or 11.7 percent of state waters within the south coast region. The remaining areas are primarily SMCAs that allow some fishing activity, covering an area of 76.6 square miles, and federal Safety Zones consisting of 36.7 square miles. It should be noted that sub-options exist within the proposed regulation that could increase the number of MPAs in the regulation. Selecting the addition of Refugio SMCA (Option 2) and Doheny SMCA (Option 2) would add an additional 1.03 square miles and 0.14 square miles, respectively, to the total area covered by the proposed regulation, for a total of 388.5 square miles. A selection of Options 3 or 4 for Crystal Cove SMCA (that divides the proposed Crystal Cove MPA into Crystal Cove SMCA and Robert E. Badham SMCA) would add an additional MPA with no change to the size, and Option 2 for Laguna Beach SMR/SMCA would divide the proposed Laguna Beach MPA into two MPAs, with no change to the size.

The 35 new MPAs included in this proposed regulation (with sub-options that could lead to up to 39 MPAs) make up roughly 47 percent of the total area protected within the IPA, with the existing Channel Islands MPAs contributing approximately 43 percent of protected area, and the federal Safety Zone areas covering approximately 10 percent of the protected area encompassed in the IPA.

Many of the SMCAs allow the take of pelagic finfish (defined above), recreational take of white seabass by spearfishing, and commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul gear, which were considered by the SAT to offer high ecosystem protection. In some SMCAs, take of other species such as spiny lobster, sea urchin, finfish, and kelp is allowed. With some exceptions, the SMCAs protect benthic fishes and invertebrates most likely to benefit from area protection.

Many of the MPA proposals were advanced with recommendations from the stakeholders and BRTF to develop MOU agreements between the Department and government entities, research institutions, or tribal governments and organizations. These MOU agreements are outside of this rulemaking process, although they may be considered and pursued under the guidance of the draft master plan.

Alternatives to Regulation Change:

A range of alternatives to the proposed regulation was provided by the SCRSG and BRTF to meet the purposes of the proposed regulation but were not selected as the preferred alternative. Each alternative, with the exception of the no-change alternative, meets the goals and guidelines of the MLPA to varying degrees, and attempts to adhere to the SAT guidelines in the draft master plan to the extent possible. Each alternative is summarized below for informational purposes.

Alternative 1 – This is the SCRSG “Proposal 1R”, developed within SCRSG workgroups by constituents representing a variety of consumptive, non-consumptive, and environmental interests. It consists of 37 proposed MPAs, 13 existing MPAs and two special closures at the

Channel Islands, and two federal Safety Zones, covering an area of 397.5 square miles, representing 16.9 percent of state waters within the south coast region. Of this, 77.5 percent of the area is within no-take state marine reserves or “very high protection” SMCAs that do not allow fishing, covering 307.8 square miles or 13.1 percent of state waters within the south coast region.

Alternative 2 – This is the “SCRSG Proposal 2R”, developed within SCRSG workgroups by constituents representing primarily commercial and recreational fishing interests along the south coast. It consists of 24 proposed MPAs, 13 existing MPAs and two special closures at the Channel Islands, and two federal Safety Zones covering an area of 378.3 square miles, representing 16.1 percent of state waters within the south coast region. Of this, 74.8 percent of the area is within no-take state marine reserves or “very high protection” SMCAs that do not allow fishing, covering 282.8 square miles or 12 percent of state waters within the south coast region.

Alternative 3 – This is the “SCRSG Proposal 3R”, developed within SCRSG workgroups by constituents primarily representing non-consumptive and environmental interests along the south coast. It consists of 27 proposed MPAs, 13 existing MPAs and two special closures at the Channel Islands, and three federal Safety Zones covering an area of 412.7 square miles, representing 17.6 percent of state waters within the south coast region. Of this, 71 percent of the area is within no-take state marine reserves or “very high protection” SMCAs and a State Marine Recreational Management Area that do not allow fishing, covering 293 square miles or 12.4 percent of state waters within the south coast region.